

Mary Jean Beaton

KEN REYNOLDS Presents . . .

WILF CARTER IN PERSON



WITH A
TERRIFIC CAST

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

Dear Friends:—

This is the fifth year I have had the pleasure of presenting the world's greatest Cowboy Recording Artist, Wilf Carter, and his two very talented and beautiful daughters, Carol and Sheila. It has been a truly wonderful experience I shall never forget — working with a fellow-Canadian who has been for many years a world figure in the Western music field; a man who has recorded over 600 different songs and ballads during the past 23 years establishing an enviable record which I am sure can never be beaten. Wilf is to me, as he is to everyone he meets, whether rich or poor, important or otherwise, a sincere, honest, plain and down-to-earth ordinary guy who wants everyone to treat him as part of one big happy family of friends. Though in the eyes of millions of his fans he has been on top of the ladder of success for many years, he prefers to be down a few steps where he can meet his friends, shake hands, record and sing many more of the songs that have made him famous.

Last November I had the pleasure of going to Australia to arrange a tour for Wilf Carter in the land "Down Under". Wilf is by far the most popular recording artist there and has won the popularity pole for four consecutive years. Here is a letter I received following our opening night at the Newcastle Stadium:



Dear Mr. Reynolds,

"The Wilf Carter Show as presented at the Stadium Theatre here in Newcastle, on January 20th, 1955, was so well received that I feel compelled to write expressing my opinion of the Show.

"I have seldom seen a presentation which I can recommend as highly as the Wilf Carter Show. It was fast-moving and most entertaining, and at all times clean and most acceptable to everyone in the audience, including small children, their parents and several members of the ministry who attended the performance.

"Wilf Carter has a show which is bound to attract a family audience and it pleases me to say that the entire family can enjoy his programme without a blush.

"Whenever you are in this territory be sure to come in to see me, and I know that we will be interested in trying to arrange a return engagement of this attraction."

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) H. T. MACK,

GENERAL MANAGER.

Since Wilf and I first got together we have tried to bring you the best talent available to maintain the reputation acclaimed by radio and press as the finest western variety family show on tour in Canada. Wilf's daughters, Carol now nine and Sheila, twelve years of age, have proven themselves to be terrific entertainers, winning the hearts of thousands and repeatedly stealing the show with their ballet, tap dancing, singing and yodelling in harmony with their famous Daddy. With many long hours of practice and experience through the past four years, they are now perfect even to the smallest detail.

A sincere word of tribute is extended to Mrs. Wilf Carter who, through the years, has been the person behind the scenes with the tremendous responsibility of maintaining the children's special wardrobes in addition to the many extra duties required of a wife and mother while on tour.

I hope that you have enjoyed the show and will watch for Wilf and his two girls with another new All-Star Cast on their next visit in two years' time (1957).

Sincerely,

Ken Reynolds
ENTERTAINMENTS REG'D

694 Roosevelt Ave., Ottawa, Ontario.



Canada's "Living Legend" Cowboy Vocalist • WILF CARTER.



**JOE BROWN, Amherst, N.S. - Sensational Singing Star and
doubling on bass fiddle.**

Joe first began singing at an early age when he listened to Wilf Carter records during the long winter nights when he was working for a stove factory. Being interested in boats and seafaring, he then started working in the shipyard's welding and riveting for seven years, then branched into salvage work raising ships sunk during the Second World War. In 1949, he teamed up with a group known as the "Hillbilly Jewels" and since then has toured with almost all the "Big Name" artists and sung on over sixty different radio stations. He has recorded for Biltmore, Decca and Arrow labels; his best numbers being "Big Mamou" and his own composition "Maid of the Mist". Joe is married and the father of two lovely children.



JACK KINGSTON - Television Star - our Master of Ceremonies.

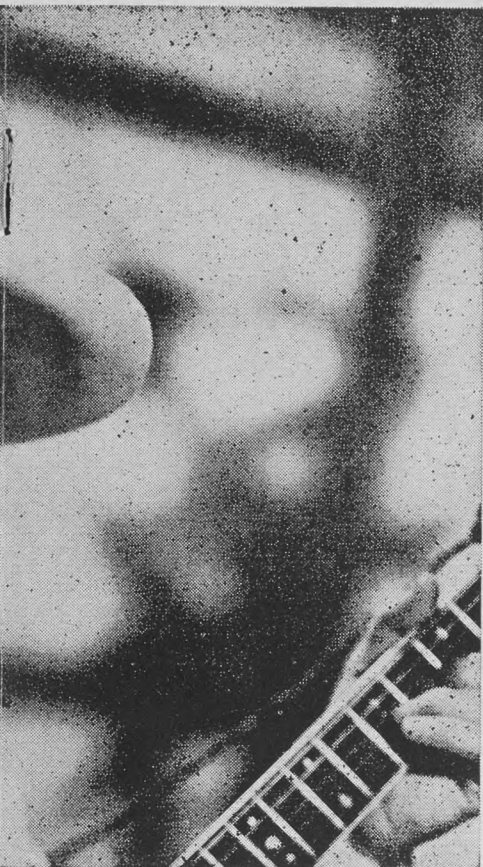
Jack, like most other singing stars, started at an early age singing at all the local dances and concerts around his home town of St. Catharines. His first break came in 1945 when he won a radio contest and got a feature spot over a radio station. A few years later he joined CHML's "Main Street Jamboree", on the Dominion Network. He appears on television every week and has been featured on WSM "Grand Ole Opry", Nashville; WLS, Chicago; WWVA, Wheeling; the Arthur Godfrey Show and many others. His biggest hit so far is one which he helped arrange last year called "How Far Is She Now" and tells about Marilyn Bell's historic swim across Lake Ontario. He is Canada's fastest rising vocalist with a big future ahead, and records for Spartan records.



HELLO EVERYBODY!

Well, it sure is great to be back this way again to meet all you wonderful people. It's been two years now since we were out your way. Last Summer we had a big tour all thru' the East and you know it thrills me to death just to think that of all the shows that ever went down there, we drew the largest crowds. Yep, even those big Arenas were bursting at the seams night after night with over-capacity audiences and you know it's like I always said, it's not just me they come to see, but the whole show and the wholesome family entertainment we like to bring all you pepole.

I'm mighty proud of those two little sweethearts of mine, Carol and Sheila. They're two years older now and have practised an awful lot and performed with me on the stage for the twelve weeks' tour last year. We have some new numbers lined up to sing and yodel for you and they have new dance routines that I am sure you will enjoy.



And right about here I'll let you in on a little secret. Those little Poup-a-nanies of mine—well, that's what my folks called me when I was their age—anyway, they're taking up piano and guitar lessons and when we come out this way in two years' time, they will have some numbers of their own to do for you, so you see, folks, we like to keep adding to the show each year and getting a different cast of some of the best entertainers we can. We kinda threw a lasso around this Ward Allen fellow and reserved him for the trip this Summer. He toured with us for the tour down East last season. The other artists were selected to provide the very finest Western variety entertainment for you.

Remember a couple of years ago I said I was headin' for Australia? Well 'bout Christmas time last year I boarded one of those big planes and took off for the land "Down Under". The country folk there are just like you people here and sure gave me a terrific reception. They have lots of good cattle and enormous herds of sheep. I hope to saddle up and head back there for another tour this winter.

Just before signing off I'd like to thank all you wonderful people for sort of switching over with me and following me on Decca Records. I plan to make a lot more of the old type with more yodelling like the ones I used to do so many years ago.

Till we meet again, it's "So long, it's been good to know you."

WILF CARTER



BILL MANKISS - Canada's Sensational, Versatile Musician.

Bill was born in Buchanan, Saskatchewan, and he now makes Toronto his home. Bill is one of Canada's most versatile musicians, specializing on the accordion. He also plays guitar, fiddle, base, piano, Hammond organ and does vocals. He has taught over 1200 people how to play the accordion. He has appeared on many television and radio shows and supplied background music for many singing stars here in Canada. Bill has given up many important commitments to be able to appear on this show.



LYNN STRAUFF - Wizzard of the Steel Guitar.

Lynn is 26 and single. He hails from Courtland, N.Y. where he appears regularly on television and countless other personal appearances. He also toured with Wilf Carter on his trans-Canada tour in 1951. He has played steel guitar with many other Western recording stars and has supplied background music for several singers. Besides steel guitar he also doubles on rhythm guitar and base. His favourite hobby is fishing.



WARD ALLEN - the 1953 Canadian Champion Old-Time Fiddler.

Ward hails from Kirkton, Ontario. He has played fiddle with many groups during the past fifteen years gaining experience and perfection until, when in 1952, his first real break came and he won top honours in the Western Ontario Championship held in Hensal, Ontario. In 1953 he won the Western Ontario Championship for the second consecutive year. A few months after receiving this award, he entered a competition for the Canadian Old-Time Fiddler's Championship sponsored by the Shelbourne Ontario Rotary Club. He won this Championship over 87 other contestants and went on from there to Louisville, Kentucky, where he came fourth in a competition against eighteen top-ranking Championship winners. His hobbies, when not composing new tunes, are hunting and fishing. Ward has several of his own compositions recorded on Alvina records. After receiving his Championship in 1953 he fulfilled a request by Her Majesty, the Queen, to record a medley of his winning selections to be added to her own private record collection.



"TINY" our hilarious family comedian — "*Nuf Said!*"



**FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
"WILF CARTER" FAN CLUB**

Hello friends:—

It is with much pleasure that I accept the invitation from Ken Reynolds to accompany the "Wilf Carter Show" on the tour this summer by way of this Souvenir Programme. I only wish it were possible to do so in person and be able to meet you all personally.

Ken has the "Honor" and pleasure of presenting the "All-time Great" of Western singing and songwriting together with his two lovely and highly-talented daughters, Carol and Sheila, and I have the same privilege of doing so through the medium of the "Wilf Carter Fan Club" (World Wide).

A little over two years ago I organized this club with two other loyal Wilf Carter fans. To date the club membership is almost a thousand and has grown to be world wide. We have fine memberships throughout this vast area who send in news, pictures and stories of Wilf Carter and others located in their area. Every twelve weeks I put it all together into a big forty-page journal which we proudly call

the "Montana Slim News". The actual snapshots and material contained in this book are available through the club only.

I would personally like to invite you to join Wilf Carter and his many fans and friends in this big, wonderful "Friendship Circle". The address is: WILF CARTER FAN CLUB, P.O. Box 151, Florence, Mass., U.S.A.

Glad you were able to see the Wilf Carter Show and I will be happy to hear from you.

Sincerely and always for Wilf Carter,

ELEANOR M. BURDO.

- AUTOGRAPHS -

Handwritten signatures:
Hand Allen
Bud Mankin